

Application No. 09/996,315
Amendment dated July 12, 2004
Reply to Advisory Action of May 25, 2004

REMARKS

Summary of the November 14, 2003 Office Action

Claims 1, 3-11, and 20-25 were pending in this application.

Claims 1, 3-5, 10, 11 and 20-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Japanese Patent 11-149,673 ("Kato") in view of Bahns et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,607,188 ("Bahns").

Claims 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Kato in view of Bahns and Taira et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,809,003 ("Taira").

Summary of Advisory Action

Applicant's arguments in the April 13, 2004 Reply to Office Action that Kato fails to show visible patterns on the disc were rejected.

Applicant's arguments in the April 13, 2004 Reply to Office Action that there was no motivation to combine Kato and Bahns were rejected. The Examiner maintains the final rejection.

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Summary of Applicant's Reply

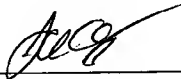
Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to recite "providing a mark on a back surface of a stamper using diamond-scribing." Kato, Bahns, and Taira taken alone or in combination fail to show or suggest this feature.

Furthermore, claims 3-11 and 20-25 depend from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claims 3-11 and 20-25 are allowable for at least the reasons that independent claim 1 is allowable.

Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that claims 1, 3-11 and 20-25 are patentable. This application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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